

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY NEWSLETTER



THE NATIONAL LIBRARY
CALCUTTA
1995

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Front Cover : Some illuminated rare documents and original paintings from Asutosh Mukhopadhyay Collection.

Inside Third Cover :

Top : Prof. Manindra Mohan Chakraborty, President, Asiatic Society presides over the Construction Ceremony of Bhasha Bhavan—1995.

Bottom : Dr. D.N. Banerjee, Director, National Library along with other distinguished guests on the way to the new Bhasha Bhavan Construction site.

Back Cover : Smt. Suchitra Mitra, a noted Rabindra Sangeet Singer, sings the 'National Anthem' at the Bhasha Bhavan Construction Ceremony—1995.

(Pic : Reprography Division - National Library)

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The National Library Newsletter

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THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

The present volume of the Newsletter gives emphasis on Sir Asutosh Mukhopadhyay Collection which is a prestigious holding of the National Library. A full information on this Collection has been given in this issue.

1995 is a very important year for National Library so far as its various developmental activities are concerned. The most significant event took place in February with the starting of actual construction of a third Annexe Building called "Bhasha Bhavan". This Rs. 68 crore multi-storeyed building will cater the needs of the readers in the most modern lines. It is expected that it would be ready within 3 years.

The Main Reading Room of the National Library is adorned with the portraits of great national leaders. Another portrait of a great son of India, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was added to it in March. It was unveiled by Hon'ble Union Minister of Welfare, Shri Sitaram Kesari. A 'Seminar' was also organised on the occasion to discuss the services of the National Library. The Minister also attended the Seminar.

The Library has Sir Jadunath Sarkar Collection donated by his heir. Recently, very rare diaries, letters and memoirs of the late historian were discovered in his old residential house which were donated to the National Library in a small but a colourful function in the Library.

An interesting function to promote national integration was held in the auditorium of the National Library, called 'Inter-State Literary Function' organised by Calcutta Sahitya Chora and Assam Socio-Literary Club. It was inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Shri Hiteswar Saikia. The Bengali translation of his original Assamese language book 'Anek Path Baki' tr. by S.M Das, was also released on that occasion. The minister and his wife Dr. (Smt.) Hemaprava Saikia also visited Assamese Division of the National Library.

THE ASUTOSH COLLECTION

The Asutosh Collection of the National Library containing some exceedingly rare and useful documents, presently housed in the fourth floor of the Annexe Building, functions as a full fledged library within a library.

This is the personal collection of Sir Asutosh Mukhopadhyay, donated by his heirs to the National Library, presently comprising of about 85,000 volumes. Sir Asutosh Mukhopadhyay (1864-1924) is well known as a great educationist, jurist, and internationally acclaimed mathematician and also an avid bibliophile. This collection of books runs the whole gamut of subjects in Humanities and in Sciences as far as the knowledge of Sir Asutosh's day extended. The collection at present is known to be the largest single-man collection housed in any National Library of the world.

On the 31st March, 1949 the four sons of Sir Asutosh, addressed a letter to the then Union Education Minister, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, signifying their intention to make a gift of the Library left by their reverend father to the national Library having laid down certain conditions governing the location, preservation and maintenance of this gift collection. As per one of these conditions of the donors, the collection has not been merged with the general collection of the library and has been placed in a separate hall as one unit having completeness in all respect and is known as "Asutosh Mukhopadhyay Collection", so that scholars may have opportunity of utilising the same. It is interesting to note that one of the conditions in the letter said that in case the National Library is shifted outside Calcutta, this great collection should be offered to the Calcutta University in the first instance, and if they refuse for any reason then to the Govt. of West Bengal, because the donors desired that the library should continue in Calcutta, where their father was born, lived and worked. As private collections have long been found to play the role of nucleus in most of the National Libraries of the world, this timely and gracious gift was greatly appreciated and accepted by the then Education Minister on behalf of Govt. of India.

As regards the history of the growth of this unique collection, it is known that Sir Asutosh's father Dr. Gangaprasad Mukherjee, himself a brilliant graduate of Calcutta Medical College, spared no pain to provide his son with a valuable collection of books right from his school days. It is said that Dr. Gangaprasad purchased for a sum of Rs. 10,000 in those days, a very fine collection of books and periodicals on Mathematics. Afterwards regular additions were made to this collection. Later when Sir Asutosh started acquiring books for his personal library, standing orders were placed in advance for standard books with well-known firms in Europe and America.

Auction sales of private collections also provided him with opportunities for acquiring rare books. He used to spend thousands of rupees every year on books. His palatial house at Russa Road (now Asutosh Mukherjee Road) in South Calcutta, was to a large extent a library. After his death, during the Second World War, a large part of the collection was shifted to the family's ancestral house at Madhupur, Bihar for reasons of safety. Since the time of acceptance of this remarkable gift collection, the donors have from time to time added documents to the Asutosh Collection. Notable among the additions have been the exceedingly unique and useful collection of documents, pertaining to Himalayan travel and mountaineering donated by Sri Uma Prasad Mukherjee, the third and only living son of Sir Asutosh and a well known Himalayan traveller-cum-writer, which according to the wish of the donor has been kept separately.

The Asutosh Collection is regarded as an unique one because of its rarity and variety of features. Books in different languages and in varied subjects as literature, history, Philosophy, economics, mathematics, astronomy, physics, physiology, anthropology, law, fine arts etc. are to be found in this collection. Besides, there is a rich collection of rare and varied illustrations and original works. A portion of the Collection also includes about 170 titles of rare periodicals. Though this collection is general in nature, it specialises in legal literature and is unique with its rarity. It is interesting to note that Sir Asutosh had put his name on most of the important books noting details of the price paid and their intrinsic worth according to his estimate with dates and remarks such as "Rare" "Very Rare", "Unique" and so on. In quite a few other books there are some interesting marginilia in his own hand. The information revealed through these remarks may have a historical value and contribute lot to an interesting subject of study.

The following brief description may be interesting to inspect the prize possessions of the collection from different approaches.

Manuscripts :

There are a few manuscripts at the Asutosh Collection, which have been collected by Sir Asutosh and also by his third son Sri Umaprasad Mukhopadhyay. These include "Vivadabhangarnava", an original manuscript on "tulat" paper which is written in Devnagari script being a digest of Hindu law. "Dayabhaga" is another manuscript on "tulat" paper. A prestigious portion of the holding is the "Sarat manuscript corner". A number of original manuscripts of the great novelist Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyay, including the one on the novel "Pather Dabi" has found its

place along with a large number of personal letters, documents, articles and other novels.

Old Publications :

There are many 16th and 17th Century publications at the Asutosh Collection. The oldest document of the collection is a Latin Book "Notitia Vtraque" published in 1552, Basileae, dealing with Roman Law & Administration. The first English translation of Euclid's Geometry, titled "The elements of geometrie of the most ancient philosopher Euclide of Megara", published from London in 1570, contains folded, paper-cut figurines to depict three dimensionally the problems of Solid Geometry. Another example includes a Greek book "Demosthenous Logoi, Kai Prooimia Demegorika, Kai Epistolai" by Demosthenes, published in 1570 from Lrtetiae and so on.



Some rare and Old publications from Asutosh Collection

Limited, autographed and expensive editions :

In the Asutosh Collection there are nearly one thousand books of such limited editions, majority of these are on European literature. Usually, such editions were expensive as they were printed on hand-made paper and were in Morocco Vellum and other expensive material. They often carried author's or artist's signature. Printed in 1909, on an expensive Japanese Vellum, only 25 copies of A.W. Upson's "Lyrics and Sonnets" of which the

copy at the Asutosh Collection is number 12. Gautier's Cleopetra, published from London in 1899 is copy no. 13 of choice edition deluxe (100 copies on hand made paper), bears the remark "Printed for the Hon'ble Doctor Asutosh Mukhopadhyay, with the publisher's signature. Only 250 copies of Henry Stanley's "In Darkest Africa" had been published in 1890, and this document is numbered 240 and contains the author's autograph as well.

Rare Binding :

Sir Asutosh had collected a large number of documents on the merit of their exquisite, unique rare binding. Goethe's Faust, published in the year 1874, the text of which is in German in Gothic script is a large book, about half a meter long, bound in Morocco with raised title in gilt, corner medallions and the illustrations of Faust, Mephistopheles and others in metal is a unique item as far as binding and decorations are concerned. "The Preacher", an edition of the Bible published in 1809, is yet another example of a very rare binding and illuminated work. The cover is delicately carved on black wood, each single page has different, unique gold illuminated designs. "The Book of Common Prayer" printed on hand-made paper (1903) is found with "Oak" covers with a leather spine and clasps to hold both sides of the cover. It was very rare in 1904 and Sir Asutosh acquired it for 120 rupees.

Original Paintings :

A few sets of original paintings had been collected by Sir Asutosh of which mention must be made of the famous Mica paintings. On very fine sheets of Mica, a number of series of topics like Indian butterflies, Indian vehicles etc., have been drawn which are very colourful, bright and of high aesthetic value. Besides, a set of original Chinese paintings (Canton Paintings), 52 other original water colour paintings may also be found in the Asuthosh Collection.

Illustrated Books :

A special interest of Sir Asutosh is reflected in the several hundred books on illustrations which are to be found in this collection. These includes "Views of Calcutta and its environs" by Sir Charles Doyly, lithographed and published from London in 1848; "The Sundhya" by Mrs. S.C. Belnos published in 1851, being the detailed pictorial description of the rites

performed by the Brahmins during their daily prayers; Twenty four plates illustrative of Hindoo and European members in Bengal, drawn on the stone by A. Colin from the sketches by Mrs. Belnos, published from London in 1832; "Les Hindous" (1807-12) by T.B. Solvyns, being a collection of 300 coloured plates illustrating the occupations, festivals and costumes of the Hindus; "Oriental Secnery" by Thomas Daniell and many large sized illustrated books pertaining to subjects varied as dermatology, Indian venomous snakes, rhododendron, conch shells, Ajanta paintings, Buddhist architecture, Asiatic birds, Indian towns and cities, Shakespearean drama and so on.



"A Nautch" — a beautiful sketch from "Twenty four plates illustrative of Hindoo and European manners in Bengal", by Mrs. Belnos, 1832, kept in the Asutosh Collection

Shakespeare and other Literary classics :

Of the English literature documents to be found in the Collection, 115 are by William Shakespeare and more than the same number on Shakespeare. The 39 volume 'Vale Shakespeare' was limited to 310 copies and was published between 1900-1903 on hand made paper while the famous Henry Irving's edition of Shakespeare was published in 1893 and contains 243 illustrative engravings. Both these rare editions are included in the Asutosh Collection. The 1902 facsimile reproduction of the first folio edition of Shakespeare, 1623, which is incidentally autographed by Sir Sidney Lee, is also a valued treasure. The first illustrated edition of "Paradise Lost"

published in 1688, along with the earliest edition of Milton's Poetical works in 3 volumes published in 1794-97 are available in the Collection. Other works in the Collection include a facsimile reprint of the first edition (1605) of the Spanish Classic 'Don Quixote' and big sets of works by John Ruskin, Sir Walter Scott, Daniel Defoe, Charles Dickens, George Eliot, Rudyard Kipling, Robert Louis Stevenson, Charles and Mary Lamb and so on.

Mathematical and other Scientific documents :

Being a renowned mathematician Sir Asutosh Mukhopadhyay had more than 20 publications of internationally reputed journals. He had collected original French documents of Laplace and other famous mathematicians like Delambre, besides the monumental editions like the 13 volumes of "The Collected Mathematical papers of Arthur Cayley". A valuable treasure is the 1871 reprint of the 1726 edition of Newton's famous "Philosophiæ naturalia principia mathematica" in Latin, which contains the preface of 1786 edition by Sir Isaac Newton himself. Colebrooke's translation of Bhaskaracharya's "Lilavati" a maths text printed from Calcutta in 1893 and the first English translation of 'Euclid's geometry' of 1570 (mentioned elsewhere) are just a couple of the other rarities. The Asutosh Collection has about 5200 volumes dealing with Science and Technology which includes unique, out of print and rare editions.

The Law Collection of Sir Asutosh :

The Section on law serials is particularly rich. Majority of the published Indian Law serials are to be found in the Collection along with a large number of 19th Century law titles. Entire series of Law Reports of England, Scotland, Ireland, United States, Canada, Ceylon, etc. are included in the Law Collection. Some of the extremely rare 18th and 19th Century reports of the Admiralty, Exchequer, Chancery, King's and Queen's Bench, are in the proud possession of the Collection.

Other Assorted unique documents :

The Journal of Indian Art (1886-1917) published from London, is a glittering example unveiling the ancient and traditional art forms of Indian culture and heritage. Works of Rembrandt, Turner, Hoppier along with Coomaraswamy's Rajput painting (1916) are worth mentioning. "The Sacred Books of the East" edited by Maxmüller and Sanskrit Italian Prose version

of Gorresio's ten volumed Ramayana are rare. A five volumed Bengali edition of Kirtibaas Ramayan, published from Serampore Press in 1803 and the 1769 edition of "Annadamangal" in Bengali, printed in Calcutta are worth mentioning.

Functional outlines :

The entire Collection has been arranged in a classified order and maintains a Dictionary Catalogue in the card form. Four volumes of the following Printed Catalogue have already been published till date.

Volume 1. - Fine Arts;

Volume 2. - American and European Literature;

Volume 3. - History, Geography, Travels & Biography;

Volume 4. - Science & Technology;

Volume 5. - Philosophy, Religion, and portions of Social Sciences.
(In Press.)

The Division has a small Reading Room of its own, where the library staff are always ready to help the readers and the scholars. No material housed in the division is allowed to be taken out. All sorts of reference and bibliographic services are extended to the scholars of India and abroad. Reprographic facilities are offered to all readers for academic use. Maintenance and preservatory functions have always received cardinal importance at the Asutosh Collection since its inception. Considering the rarities, oldness and importance of this Collection, disinfecting works are performed at regular intervals of 45 to 60 days. Microfilming, laminating, binding, mending and fumigation activities are also carried out. For proper preservation biennial thorough cleaning is also undertaken. In order to offset the various fluctuation of the environmental parameters provisions for stabilising the temperature and humidity has been taken care by the installation of a centralised Air Conditioned Plant which caters to the Asutosh Collection also.

Mention may be made that Asutosh Collection has an Exhibition Hall of its own where some attractive and rare items are kept in the glass topped display boxes. Every year a good number of prominent and distinguished personalities of India and abroad visit the Collection. Special exhibitions are being arranged on the occasion of the visit of the dignitaries.

This in short is an attempt to picturise in words the great Collection. This generous donation has greatly enriched the National Library during the last forty six years. The Collection is really pride of the National Library of India, Calcutta.

BHASHA BHAWAN CONSTRUCTION CEREMONY - 1995

(Speech delivered by Dr. D.N. Banerjee, Director, National Library, Calcutta on the occasion of Bhasha Bhawan Construction Ceremony on 15-2-1995.)

Excerpts :

Prof. Manindra Mohan Chakraborty, President, Asiatic Society, Prof. D.K. Sinha, Smt. Suchitra Mitra, the distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, "I welcome you all to this occasion when the actual construction of the Central Building - the 3rd Annexe of the National Library which is known as 'Bhasha Bhawan' begins. The customary laying of foundation stone ceremony was performed six years ago in April, 1989 by the then Prime Minister of India, late Rajiv Gandhi. He was young but had a vision — the vision of making India great and to make it suitable for 21st Century's progress. He gave priority and importance to National Library of India, the



The Director, Dr. D. N. Banerjee delivers speech during the Construction Ceremony of Bhasha Bhavan-1995

great seat of culture and centre of knowledge and information. He knew very well that without information nothing moves - information is a great force behind all activities. To cope with the modern technology he wanted a Central Annexe Building of the National Library and gave his approval for its urgent construction. Shri Rajiv Gandhi took personal care to see that the plan of the building match with international standard. Shri Rajiv Gandhi himself selected the site and approved the architectural plan of the building. We are all sorry as he could not see the fulfilment of his dream.

While finalising the plan, it was decided that it would be a Central Annexe Building which will be as sophisticated as other National Libraries of the world. The justification in constructing such a building is that the National Library is the largest library in India and was declared an institution of national importance. This is the only Library in India which has been given this prestige. The National Library is now housed in different buildings, the Main Building being the 'Belvedere' which was used as the winter palace by the Viceroy of India. This building does not have the design to be used as a proper National Library with modern amenities of international standard. Other than this, expansion has been made in two more buildings which have not been designed to have proper modern facilities for both modernisation of the services and for conservation of cultural heritage. This new building, 'Bhasha Bhawan' will be constructed with all the amenities which should be available in a country's National Library. This building will naturally have to function in such a way that the National Library can play a key role in India's education and library system and can also usefully participate in international activities. All National Libraries of the major countries of the world are architecturally provided with modern interior articulation as well as with a facade which will make them one of the most beautiful buildings in the respective country. The newly built National Library of the Peoples' Republic of China, the new British Library in London and the proposed building of the National Library of France in Paris, which is under construction, are beautiful monuments of architectural grandeur. Under these circumstances, it was felt that the 'Bhasha Bhawan' should be so built that it can uphold the prestige of the National Library as well as that of the country. The building should be a matter of pride when celebrities from different parts of India and abroad visit it.

It would be a modern 6-storeyed building with a total area of 40,000 sq. meter. Each floor will have special function such as basement floor will contain compact stacks, reprography, strong room, computer room, fumigation lab. etc. The ground floor will contain foyer, cafeteria, exhibition room. Mezzanine floor will contain reading hall, microfilm

section, audio visual, rare books, maps etc. so on and so forth. The new building will not only ease the space problem what the National Library is facing now, but it would help to give more and better services to the readers. Computerised information and retrieval systems would be introduced in a massive way. Resource sharing through networking will be more elaborate and exhaustive. The stacks will be so arranged that it would cater the need for at least 10 years to come.

As regards landscaping, a beautiful water front is to be created by excavating the old canal in front of the building. The small lake with lily and lotus will give a pleasing and inviting surroundings. The exterior of the building will be covered with white marbles. In constructing the building all attempts will be made to save existing trees as far as possible. The whole area will be developed with more flowering and rare variety of trees. Under no circumstances, the environment of the area will be disturbed. The lawns, gardens and the other trees will be left untouched. The architect and the CPWD have been specially instructed to maintain the environment at all cost.

The construction of the building is possible only with the help, cooperation and active support of the users, readers and others who love National Library and its development. I hope the National Library would get it abundantly now and in future."

DR. B.R. AMBEDKAR CELEBRATIONS

Shri Sitaram Kesari, Hon'ble Minister for Welfare, Govt. of India visited the National Library, Calcutta on 21.6.95 to attend three important functions.

The National Library arranged a Book Exhibition on Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar which was inaugurated by the Minister himself on 21.6.95. The Exhibition was open for public from 21.6.95 to 23.6.95 during 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. The intention of the Exhibition was to highlight the contributions and achievements of Dr. Ambedkar with regard to his national leadership. The Exhibition exposes Dr. Ambedkar as a freedom fighter and also as the chief architect of the constitution of India. The Minister also unveiled a portrait of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in the Reading Room of the Main Building. It is a glorious tribute to Dr. Ambedkar as his portrait will now adorn along with other great sons of India like Raja Rammohun Roy, Vidyasagar, Mahatma Gandhi, Rabindra Nath Tagore, Gurajada Appa Rao etc.

A Seminar on "The Readers Services in the National Library : an overview" was also organised in the Library's auditorium. The Director, Dr. D.N. Banerjee while welcoming the Hon'ble Minister and the distinguished guests narrated the inheritant problems of the National Library, Calcutta such as shortage of space, trained manpower and the money. Even with these shortcomings, he said it is working well and is acting not only as a National Library but also a Public and University Library as well. Many outstation readers are depending heavily on it. The Director promised better services, which would be at par with the advanced countries, when the "Bhasha Bhawan", the new multi-storeyed third Annexe (which is now under construction) is complete.



Shri Sitaram Kesari, Hon'ble Minister for Welfare, Govt. of India inaugurates 'Book Exhibition' on Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar

Prof. Prabir Roychaudhury ex-Head, Dept. of Library & Information Science, Jadavpur University, Calcutta was the key note speaker. Eminent personalities, noted writers and senior readers of the Library participated in the 'Seminar'.

INTER-STATE LITERARY FUNCTION

'Calcutta Sahitya Chora' and 'Assam Socio-Literary Club' jointly organised an "Inter-State Literary Function" held at the National Library Auditorium

on the 19th March, 1995 at 3 p.m. Dr Pratap Chandra Chunder, ex-Education Minister, Government of India presided over the function. Dr. D.P. Chattopadhyay, ex-Union Minister & Governor of Rajasthan was the Chief Guest and Shri Hiteswar Saikia, Chief Minister of Assam was the Guest-of-Honour. Dr. D.N. Banerjee, Director of the National Library, Calcutta welcomed the guests. Dr. Bhupen Hazarika, a noted singer and composer, Prof. Naba Kanta Barua, Assamese Poet, and number of eminent personalities and distinguished writers, Vice-Chancellors from Assam and W.Bengal were present on the occasion.



Dr. Pabitra Sarkar, Vice-Chancellor, Rabindra Bharati University, Prof. Debiprasad Chattopadhyay, ex-Union Minister of Commerce, Dr. Pratap Chandra Chunder, ex-Union Education Minister, Shri Hiteswar Saikia, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Dr. (Smt.) Hemapra Saikia, wife of Chief Minister of Assam and Dr. D. N. Banerjee, Director, National Library, Calcutta at the Inter-State Literary Function.

BOOK EXHIBITION

The National Library, Calcutta organised a 'Book Exhibition' in the Library's auditorium during 4-6, January 1995. The Exhibition was inaugurated by Dr. Pratap Chandra Chunder, ex-Union Minister of Education. The Director explained in detail the purpose of such Book Exhibition by saying that instead of confining book selection process within

letters. The latest gift, third in the series consists of 96 old letters and diaries and some notes of Sir Sarkar.

HIGH POWERED COMMITTEE VISIT

The 'High Powered Three Member Committee' appointed by the Department of Culture, Ministry of Human Resource Development headed by Prof. Satish Chandra, ex-U.G.C. Chairman visited the National Library, Calcutta on 23 Feb, 1995 to study the problems and prospects of the India's National Library. They met all cross sections of the people which included Library authorities & staff, senior readers, prominent academicians, distinguished writers, noted politicians etc. and exchanged views. The other two members of the Committee are Prof. U. Anantamurthy, President, Sahitya Academy, New Delhi and Prof. Sabyasachi Bhattacharya, Vice-Chancellor, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan.

CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

Under the Indo-China Cultural Exchange Programme, 1995-96, Mr. Wu Jing Ying from the National Library of China, Beijing visited the National Library, Calcutta from 29-4-95 to 5-5-95. Mr. Wu Jing Ying, Associate Research Librarian, visited different divisions of the Library and shown keen interest in the day-to-day activities of the Library. He had a detailed discussion with the Director on the matters of professional interest and exchanged views regarding the improvement of present exchange relations between the two national libraries.

Mr. Wu Jing ying delivered a brief lecture at the auditorium of the Library on 5-5-95 on the history, management, professional activities and present modernisation programme of the National Library of China. At the beginning Mr. Wu Jing Ying was introduced by the Director, Dr. D.N. Banerjee. During his visit at Calcutta, Mr. Wu Jing Ying also visited the Asiatic Society and its library.

XL - ALL INDIA LIBRARY CONFERENCE

The National Library, Calcutta deputed Shri Bimalendu Samaddar, ALIO, Foreign Official Documents Division and Smt. Mitali Bardhan, Library and

Information Assistant to attend the XL-All India Library Conference, organised by the Indian Library Association, held at Goa University Library, Goa on January, 5-8, 1995. Dr. P.R. Dubashi, Vice-Chancellor of Goa University delivered the inaugural address with opening the Conference. Shri P.S.G. Kumar, President of ILA delivered his Presidential Address on "Freedom of Information". Shri A.P. Gakhar, General Secretary, ILA presented the ILA awards to the distinguished librarians.

GIFT

The National Library thankfully received the following notable publications as a gift during 1.1.95 to 30.6.95 as shown under the respective donors.

1. Calcutta-Paris by S.R. Sengupta : Udjal Arts, Paris.
Donor : Mr. Manisankar Mukherjee
C.E.S.C. Ltd. Calcutta.
2. International who's who of professional and business women. 3rd ed. U.S.A. American Biographical Institute, 1994.
Donor : American Biographical Institute, North Carolina, U.S.A.
3. Fundamentals of Buddhism - Nyanatiloka Mohathera; Kandy, Buddhist Publications Society, 1994.
Donor : Buddhist Publication Society, Kandy, Sri Lanka.
4. Personal Letters, Diary, Manuscripts of Sir Jadunath Sarkar.
Donor : The Director, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta.
5. Nationalism and ethnic conflict : threats to European security by Stephen Iwan Griffiths. Oxford. O.U.P., 1993, (SIPRI Research Report No. 5).
Donor : Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, Sweden.

6. Lectures on Modern Japanese Economic History 1926-1994 by Nakamura Takafusa. Japan. LTCB International Library foundation, 1994.

Donor : LTCB International Library Foundation, Tokyo, Japan.

VISITORS

The following distinguished Indian and Foreign dignitaries visited the India's National Library, Calcutta during the period under report.

Sarvasri : Major Mathew M. with staff and students of ABC Engineering College, M.P.; Prof. P.B. Mangla, Library Science Professor of Delhi University, Delhi; Prof. Sabyasachi Bhattacharya, Vice-Chancellor, Viswa Bharathi University, Santiniketan; Prof. S. Dhara with Library Science students from University of Burdwan; S.S. Blowria, I.A.S., Principal Secretary to the Jammu & Kashmir Governor, Jammu; Trilochan Kanungo, Mayor, Cuttack Municipal Corporation, Cuttack; Prof. M.M. Chakraborty, ex - Vice-Chancellor, Jadavpur University, Calcutta etc.

Prof. Richard Sorabji, Institute of Classical Studies, London, U.K.; Ranjan Hossain, USIS, Dhaka, Bangladesh; Dr. Sarla R. Murgai, Associate Professor, Reference Library, University of Texas, U.S.A.; Peter Reeves, Curtin University, Perth, Australia; John McGuider, Curtin University, Perth, Australia; Prof. Iswar Baral, formerly Vice-Chancellor, Royal Nepal Academy, Kathmandu, Nepal; Wu Jing Ying, Associate Research Librarian, National Library of China, Beijing, China; S. Gavrikov, Consul General of Russia in Calcutta etc.

RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

INDIAN SCHOLARS :

Approximately, more than one hundred Indian Research Scholars and students from different Universities and Research Institutions across the country had come over to the National Library for academic consultations on their respective field of subjects during the period under report.

FOREIGN RESEARCH SCHOLARS :

The following noted Foreign Scholars from abroad visited the National Library for academic consultation during the period under report.

Sl No.	Name & Address	Subject of Research
1.	Daniel Klingen Smith, New York, U.S.A.	Indo-U.S. Development Collaboration, 1947-1965.
2.	Davina Bhandar, Canada.	Colonial Administration.
3.	Elizabeth Collingham, Clake Hall, Cambridge University, U.K.	British in India, 1800 - 1947.
4.	E.F. Bryanet, New York, 10027, U.S.A.	History of Colonial Countries.
5.	K. Kobor, London - 274921, U.K.	Oriental Societies of British India.
6.	Ludo Rocher, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, U.S.A.	Jimutavahana in Indian mythology.
7.	Md. Israil Khan, 51, Moneswar Road, Jigutola, Dhaka - 1209.	Contribution of Bengali journals to the advancement of Bengali literature (1905-1947).
8.	Meyjes, G.P. 105, Walden Drive, U.S.A.	Language diversity in India.
9.	Mortuza Khalad, Rajshahi University, Bangladesh.	History of Mughals in India.
10.	Rosane D. Rocher, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, U.S.A.	Eighteenth Century Bengali Pandits.

Sl No.	Name & Address	Subject of Research
11.	Sergei Gagarin, 42, Kutuzov Ave, Moscow, Russia.	History of Communist movement in India.
12.	V.A. Van Bybrt, Holland.	Bengali Cultural Studies.
13.	Voigt Johannes, Stuttgart University, Stuttgart, Germany.	Jews in India.

ADMINISTRATION

APPOINTMENTS :

The National Library welcomes the following new appointees.

Sl No.	Name	Position to which joined	Date of joining
1.	Shri Rajib Chakraborty	Dusting Bearer	02.02.1995.
2.	Shri Manoj Ram	Mali	24.03.1995.

PROMOTIONS :

Shri R.B. Ram, Superintendent has been promoted as Administrative Officer on 17.4.1995. We congratulate him.

RETIREMENTS :

The following members of the staff retired from service after successfully completing their tenure during January - June, 1995.

SL. No.	Name	Designation	Date of retirement
1.	Shri C.D. Debbarma	Assistant Library and Information Officer	31.01.1995.

SL. No.	Name	Designation	Date of retirement
2.	Shri A.N. Patra	Assistant Library and Information Officer	31.01.1995.
3.	Shri Nikhil Kr. Dutta	Sr. Library and Information Assistant	31.01.1995.
4.	Shri Lok Bhadur Sharma	Head Guard	31.01.1995.
5.	Smt Meera Chatterjee	Sr. Library and Information Assistant	28.02.1995.
6.	Shri Sashi Bhusan Sarkar	Library and Information Assistant (M.O.)	31.3.1995.
8.	Shri Makhan Lal Sil	Library and Information Assistant	30.4.1995.
9.	Shri Sher Singh	Security Officer	31.5.1995.
10.	Shri Nandalal Mondal	Library Clerk	31.5.1995.
11.	Shri Atul Ch. Biswas	Sr. Library Attendent	31.5.1995.
12.	Shri Himangshu Kr. Guha	Superintendent	30.6.1995.
13.	Shri Pinoo Prasad Hela	Superintendent	30.6.1995.

VOLUNTARY RETIREMENT:

The following members of the staff retired voluntarily on health ground before completing their tenure during January-June, 1995.

SL. No.	Name	Designation	Date of retirement
1.	Shri Ram Dulariya	Mali	20.02.1995.
2.	Shri Asit Kr. Mitra	Assistant	25.4.1995.

OBITUARY:

The Library deeply regrets the sudden demise of Shri Ram Brich Bansfore, Safaiwala on 30.6.1995.

LIST OF PRICED PUBLICATIONS

1. Author Catalogue of printed books in European Languages.

Vol. 1	A-B	1941	Rs. 6.12
Vol. 2	C-E	1942	Rs. 6.00
Vol. 3	F-H	1943	Rs. 6.10
Vol. 5	M	1953	Rs. 12.12
Vol. 6	N-P	1954	Rs. 11.12
Vol. 7	Q-R	1956	Rs. 6.75
Vol. 8	S	1960	Rs. 6.25
Vol. 9	T-V	1963	Rs. 7.25
Vol. 10	W-Z	1964	Rs. 11.12

2. Author Catalogue of Printed books in European Languages, Supplement (1951-1961).

Vol. 1	A	1966	Rs. 15.00
Vol. 2	B	1973	Rs. 13.50
Vol. 3	C	1975	Rs. 12.00
Vol. 4	D-E (Letter)	1977	Rs. 60.00
Vol. 5	F-G (Letter)	1978	Rs. 35.00
Vol. 6	H-I	1980	Rs. 55.00
Vol. 7	J-L	1982	Rs. 56.00
Vol. 8	M	1982	Rs. 67.00
Vol. 9	N-R	1985	Rs. 233.00
Vol. 10	S (Letter)	1985	Rs. 165.00
Vol. 11	T-Z (Letter)	1989	Rs. 297.00

3. Subject Index to the Author Catalogue. First Supplement, 1929.

Rs. 3.25

4. Subject Index to the Author Catalogue. Second Supplement, 1939.

Rs. 3.94

5. Subject Catalogue of Printed Books in European Languages.

Vol. 1	A	1966	Rs. 15.00
Vol. 2	B	1973	Rs. 13.95

6. Author Catalogue of Printed Books in Bengali Language.

Vol. 3	M-R	1959	Rs. 9.55
Vol. 4	S-Z	1963	Rs. 4.70

7. Catalogue of Sanskrit, Pali and Prakrit books.

Vol. 1	A-G	1951	Rs. 4.31
Vol. 2	H-Q	1956	Rs. 13.75
Vol. 3	R-Z	1973	Rs. 125.00

8. Catalogue of Sanskrit, Pali and Prakrit Books. Supplement, 1947-1980 (A-Z), 1988

Rs. 778.00

9A. Asutosh Collection Catalogue.	Rs. 6.00
Vol. 1 (Fine Arts), 1985.	Rs. 6.00
Vol. 2 (Literature : American & European), 1963.	Rs. 11.88
Vol. 3 History, Geography, Travels & Biography.	Rs. 265.50
Vol. 4 Science & Technology, 1983.	Rs. 95.00
10. A. Bibliography of Indology, Indian Anthropology, Vol. I 1960.	Rs. 5.00
B. Bibliography of Indology, Vol. 2. Indian Botany, Part (A-J), 1961.	Rs. 8.00
C. Bibliography of Indology, Vol. 2. Indian Botany Part-II K-Z, 1965.	Rs. 8.25
D. Bibliography of Indology. Vol. III, Bengali Language & Literature, Part-I (Early Period) 1964.	Rs. 6.00
11. A Bibliography of Dictionaries and Encyclopaedias in Indian Languages, 1964.	Rs. 4.75
12. Bibliographical Control in India, 1988.	Rs. 75.00
13. Catalogue of Periodicals, Newspapers & Gazettes, Vol.-I, 1956.	Rs. 6.00
14. Author Table for Indian names, 1961.	Rs. 9.50
15. The Sapru Correspondence. A check list (First series) 1961.	Rs. 3.40
16. Index Translationum indicarum, 1963.	Rs. 12.00
17. India's National Library : Systematization and Modernization by Km. Uma Majumder, 1987.	Rs. 210.00
18. National Library and Public Libraries in India, 1987.	Rs. 30.00
19. Rabindragrantha Suchi in Bengali Language, Vol.-I, Part-I, 1988.	Rs. 110.00
20. Indological Studies & South Asia Bibliography, 1988.	Rs. 115.00
21. Conservation of Library Materials, 1985.	Rs. 78.00
22. Catalogue of Persian Manuscripts in Buhar Collection, 1988.	Rs. 45.00
23. Sir Jadunath Sarkar's Catalogue of Persian Manuscripts (Xerox copy), 1988.	Rs. 40.00
24. Author Catalogue of Printed Books in Tamil Language, Vol.-I, letters, A-K, 1990.	Rs. 70.00
25. National Library and Public Library Development, 150 Anniversary of the Calcutta Public Library.	Rs. 169.00

26. Author Catalogue of Printed Books in Hindi Language, Vol-I, letter A-B.	Rs. 185.00
27. Planning Modernization and Preservation Programme in South Asian libraries, 1990.	Rs. 280.00
28. Brochure on National Library, 1992.	Rs. 43.00
29. Glimpses of India through Western Eyes.	Rs. 45.00
30. Author Catalogue of Printed Books in English language, Vol-I, Letter A, Suppl. (1962-1980).	Rs. 507.00
31. Dr. S. R. Ranganathan : a tribute.	Rs. 83.00
32. Bibliography of Nyaya philosophy, comp. by Dr. Krishna Chakraborty-Ganguly.	Rs. 346.00
33. A set of 16 post cards with coloured pictures selected from the National Library collections.	Rs. 40.00

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The Senior Administrative Officer,
The National Library,
Belvedere, Alipore,
Calcutta-700 027,
INDIA**

Legend at the entrance to the National Library, Calcutta

"I do not want my house to be walled in on all sides and my windows to be stuffed. I want cultures of all lands to be blown about my house as freely as possible. But I refuse to be blown off my feet by any".

— MAHATMA GANDHI



Prof. Manindra Mohan Chakraborty, President, Asiatic Society presides over the Construction Ceremony of Bhasha Bhavan—1995.



Dr. D.N. Banerjee, Director, National Library along with other distinguished guests on the way to the new Bhasha Bhavan Construction site.



Smt. Suchitra Mitra, a noted Rabindra Sangeet Singer, sings the 'National Anthem' at the Bhasha Bhavan Construction Ceremony—1995.